



Okanagan Indian Band

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MEDIA RELEASE

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Due to COVID-19 pandemic OKIB Chief and Council encourage seasonal visitors to stay away from reserve lands until further notice

Today Chief and Council of the Okanagan Indian Band requested that all non-Okanagan and non-residents (tourists/visitors) stay away from Okanagan Indian Band reserve lands during the current COVID-19 pandemic.

“Given the COVID-19 pandemic we have asked all CP holders to contact any of their current and past renters and let them know to stay home as they will not be allowed on OKIB reserve lands,” said Chief Louis.

“Our simple message for those contemplating visiting or staying on or near the near OKIB reserve is please don’t,” he added. “As Chief and Council we want to ensure that we do everything we can as a First Nation to safeguard our community and in particular our elders.

“Plain and simple, if you rent a cabin or secondary home in the Okanagan and want to visit it or stay at it during this pandemic, please, not now. Not in the coming weeks. Stay home,” Chief Louis stated.

“We will be putting up notices advising that non-Okanagan and non-residents (tourists/visitors) are respectfully asked to stay away from Okanagan Indian Band reserve lands during the current COVID-19 pandemic,” said Chief Louis.

If you are an Okanagan Band member or resident returning home after travelling it is requested that you self-isolate at your residence for no less than 14 days.

For all Okanagan members and residents within our territory you are required to practise physical distancing at all times. We recommend you keep a minimum distance of two metres between yourself and any other person. We also recommend wearing a mask, scarf or other face covering to help reduce the transmission of COVID-19.

“I just want to thank all those involved for their assistance in this matter. Remember, the life you save could be your own or that of a loved one,” concluded Chief Louis.